

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A ~~system~~ method for the mutual transfer of data and information between a utility provider of water, gas, electricity, heating, telephone, Internet usage, and other household utilities and a customer family including at least one person, said system including means for comprising the steps of providing a list of providers of said household utilities, transmitting information between the utility each provider on said list of providers and the premises of the customer and a household of the family, providing display means in the premises of the customer household of the family for displaying such information from each provider, such display means being provided in the form of a monitor, home computer, or television, and providing selection means so that said at least one person is capable of responding via said selection means enabling the customer to select by selecting a response to the information received and said response including a control signal enabling the customer allowing said at least one person to control the provision of a household utility from the premises household of the user family.
2. (currently amended) A ~~system according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the further comprising the step of providing information received by the customer family is provided by the utility from a provider to the customer and that relates to the metering of the consumption of the household utility or a plurality of household utilities.
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) A ~~system according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising the step of allowing the customer obtains said at least one person of said family to obtain entry to into the system selection means by the introduction of a coded input.
5. (currently amended) A ~~system according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising the step of allowing the customer at least one person to selectively operates operate said selection means for the controlled household utility within the premises household.
6. (currently amended) A ~~system according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising the step of making the display means is a part of a household utility consumption metering apparatus in the premises household.

7. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising the steps of transmitting information ~~transmitted from the customer at least one person to the utility a provider includes data, said information relating to metering of the use of at least one household utility in the premises household, said system enabling and allowing the reading and logging of information from at least one metering apparatus in the premises household to provide a record of household utility usage in any given time period to the utility provider.~~

8. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 7, wherein further comprising the step of making the information is accessible by the customer at least one person who, on the basis of information received from the utility provider, sends a command to one of a plurality of utility providers via the system to select to receive said household utility from a selected utility provider.

9. (currently amended) ~~A system method for metering the use of one or a plurality of household utilities in a premises household, in which the system enables the comprising the steps of reading and logging of information from at least one metering apparatus in the premises household to provide, to a utility provider of water, electricity, gas, Internet usage, and other household utilities, a record, as utility usage profiles, of household utility usage in any given time period, said information being accessible by a user at least one person in a family accessing said information via a monitor, home computer, television, or other display means, said system including providing communication means enabling to allow said user at least one person to selectively transmit data via the communication means and receive communication from one or more utility providers, and further enabling allowing said user at least one person, on the basis of information received from the one or more utility providers, to send a command via said communication means to one of a plurality of utility providers to designate said user family to receive said utility from a selected utility provider and wherein said selected provider generates at least some of the information from the selected utility provider is generated by the selected utility provider on the basis of household utility usage profiles transmitted by the user family to the utility provider.~~

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 9, wherein the further comprising the step of monitoring data of the usage of the utility or utilities is obtained at pre-designated time intervals of usage of the utility or utilities.

12. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 9, wherein on the basis of the monitoring of the usage of utilities, further comprising the step of generating at least one profile of usage is generated for usage of each household utility, based upon monitoring the usage of utilities, to allow subsequent setting of utility usage and supply.

13. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 9, wherein further comprising the step of allocating utility usage data is allocated to the usage of apparatus within the premises household.

14. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 13, wherein further comprising the step of allocating the usage of a plurality of household utilities over the same time period is allocated to the usage of specified apparatus within the premises household.

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) ~~A system according to~~ The method of claim 9, wherein further comprising the step of providing the information received by the apparatus is provided by the utility provider to the user family, and relates said information relating to the household utility usage profile information previously transmitted to the utility provider by the user family.